

January 22, 1951.
Printing.

House File 138
By VAN ZWOL, SCHWENGEL, PENDLETON.

Passed House, Date
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....
Passed Senate, Date
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....
Approved

A BILL FOR

An Act to amend section six hundred eighteen point two (618.2),
Code 1950, relating to the publication of notices, reports
of proceedings, and similar matter.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

- 1 Section 1. Section six hundred eighteen point two (618.2),
- 2 Code 1950, hereby is amended by inserting after the words and
- 3 figures "Section 618.1" at the end of line two (2), the following:
- 4 "or who fails to make publication of any notice, report of
- 5 proceedings, or other matter whatsoever, required of him by
- 6 law,".

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 138

For the purpose of informing the public, the Code requires that various public officials publish financial reports, summaries of official proceedings and similar matters.

At present, no penalty is provided for failure on the part of any officer to publish such matter as is required by law. As a result, there are many instances where officials are failing to comply with the law.

This bill does not create any new publications. It simply makes it a misdemeanor for any official to fail to comply with publication laws already on the books.

Where the failure to publish is unintentional, the official could avoid penalty by proceeding to make publication as required. The bill is aimed primarily to cover those instances where information is deliberately withheld from the public.